Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PANAMA 04955 261702Z

53

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 SS-20 PM-07 L-03 SP-03

CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 INRE-00 AID-20 IGA-02

EB-11 DODE-00 DRC-01 /100 W

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O R 261641Z AUG 74 FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1604 INFO USCINCSO

CONFIDENTIAL PANAMA 4955

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PN, MASS

SUBJECT: FUNDING OF PROPOSED ENGINEERING UNIT

REF: STATE 140616

1. IN VIEW OF FUNDING CONSTRAINTS OUTLINED IN REFTEL AND PROBLEMS WHICH HAVE BEEN INJECTED INTO US-PANAMANIAN RELATIONSHIP AS RESULT OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS, INCLUDING GOP DECISION TO REESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH CUBA, WE DO NOT THINK IT DESIRABLE TO PUSH FORWARD WITH FUNDING OF PROPOSED ENGINEERING UNIT. CONTINUANCE OF ONGOING MAP PROGRAMS AT THEIR PRESENT LEVEL IS OF MUCH HIGHER PRIORITY. ANY SIGNIFICANT CURTAILMENT OF LATTER WOULD HAVE AN IMMEDIATE AND ADVERSE IMPACT ON NATIONAL GUARD.

2. BECUASE OF UNCERTAINTY OF PROSPECTS FOR FUNDING OF PROPOSED ENGINEERING UNIT, WE HAVE HAD LITTE SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION WITH NATIONAL GUARD CONCERNING THE UNIT AND OUR FAILURE TO PROVIDE IT NOW WOULD NOT HAVE ADVERSE IMPACT. WE DOUBT NATIONAL GUARD WOULD BE WILLING TO FUND ANY SUBSTANTIAL PORTION OF COST OF UNIT, AND MOST CERTAINLY NOT AMOUNT AS GREAT AS \$600,000.

3.GIVEN PRESENT DELICATE POLITICAL SITUATION AND CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 PANAMA 04955 261702Z

DIFFICULT ROAD WE FORESEE IN NEAR FUTURE, WE URGE THAT

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| MAP PROGRAM BE CONTINUED AT PRESENT LEVEL. ANY NOTICABLE REDUCTION WOULD ONLY WORSEN SITUATION. JORDEN |
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| CONFIDENTIAL |
| NNN |

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: ENGINEERING, FUND ALLOTMENT, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), FOREIGN ASSISTANCE

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